

REMARKS

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action dated February 27, 2004. Claims 1-16 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-16 are rejected. Claims 2 and 3 are amended to address claim objections.

Applicant includes a Petition for Extension of Time to extend the deadline for filing a response by (1) month from May 28, 2004 to June 27, 2004.

Priority

The Examiner states:

1. **Acknowledgement is made of applicant's claim for foreign priority based on an application filed in Taiwan on 07/11/01. It is noted, however, that applicant has not filed a certified copy of the application as required by 35 U.S.C. 119(b).**

Applicant's attorney made an error on the transmittal letter in claiming priority to Taiwan Patent Appln. S.N. 90116932. However, applicant did not intend to claim priority and did not do so in the specification and/or declaration.

Oath/Declaration

The Examiner states:

2. **The oath or declaration is defective. A new oath or declaration in compliance with 37 CFR 1.67(a) identifying this application by application number and filing date is required. See MPEP 602.01 and 602.02.**

**The oath or declaration is defective because:
It does not identify the foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate on which priority is claimed pursuant to 37 CFR 1.55, and any foreign application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed, by specifying the application number, country, day, month and year of its filing.**

The transmittal was in error, but the declaration was proper. Applicant's attorney apologizes for any confusion caused thereby.

Claim Objections

The Examiner states,

- 3. Claims 2 and 3 objected to because of the following informalities: step (6) and steps (3-1, 3-2) are not shown. Appropriate correction is required.**

Applicant has amended claims 2 and 3 to address the above-identified objections. Claim 2 has been amended to change step (6) properly to step (b) and claim 3 has been amended to change (3-1) and (3-2) to (c-1) and (c-2) respectively.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC 102

The Examiner states,

- 4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action.**

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless—

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

- 5. Claim 1-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Nam (U.S. Patent 6,141,598).**

Regarding claims 1-10, Nam discloses a method for a production plan (200 to 211 to 210) including transmitting a production plan through the network, storing the plan, reading the plan and material requirements (figures 3 and 4A/4B, column 8, lines 34*).

The present invention is directed to a method and system for immediately issuing production plan. A main host 1 and several production-line hosts 2 are connected to the system 4 via a network 3 such as Internet. Production plans are inputted from the main

host 1 to the system 4 via the network 3, and stored in a first database 41 in real time through the network 3. The operational status data are stored in a second database 42 of the system 4, and after a predetermined time, the data in the first and second databases 41 and 42 are integrated, the integrated data used as the material reference stock for the next production.

U.S. Patent No. 6,141,598 to Nam (hereinafter "Nam") is directed to a pull-type vehicle assembly line control system and method in which production plans for a trim process, paint process and a vehicle body assembly process are sequentially established. The vehicle assembly line control system comprises a host computer system 100 that establishes production plans and send them to a production management control system 200, and the system 200 in turn controls slave systems 210-230 for the three main assembly processes.

In Nam, specifically in figures and specification cited by the Examiner, there is no teaching or suggestion of the use of a network for connection the control system 200 and the slave systems 210-230 together as recited in the independent claims 1, 4 and 12. On the contrary, the network such as Internet serving as the transmission link is necessary in the present invention, such that the production-line hosts at different locations to remotely access the production plans in real time through the network; this improvement cannot be achieved by Nam without using the network connection.

Further, Nam does not teach or suggest the feature that production plans and operational status data are stored in separate first and second databases of the system in the present invention, nor that after a predetermined time, the data in the two databases

are integrated to be the material reference stock for the next production as recited in claims 1, 4 and 12.

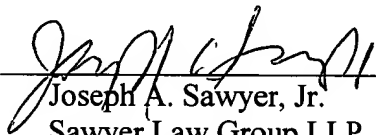
Applicant submits that claims 2, 3, 5-11 and 13-16 are allowable and they depend from an allowable base claim.

Therefore, we are of the opinion that the present inventions is allowable over the cited reference. Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests allowance and passage to issue of claims 1—16 as now presented.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant's attorney believes that this application is in condition for allowance. Should any unresolved issues remain, Examiner is invited to call Applicant's attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated



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